

Remarks

Claims 19-22, 28, 29, 32 are allowed. Claim 31, as amended, is an apparatus version of allowed Claim 19. Accordingly, Claim 31 should also be allowed.

Claims 2-14, 17, 18, 23, 25, 27, and 30 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 17 have been rewritten in independent form, and should now be allowed. Claims 9-12 and 30 should be allowable as they depend on allowable base Claim 8. Claim 18 should be allowable as it depends on allowable Claim 17. Claims 2, 13, 14, 23, 25, 27 are allowable as their respective base Claims 1 and 24 should be allowable for reasons argued below.

Claims 1 and 24 have been amended to describe at least one image representing an optically formed section of the tissue specimen. As such, Claim 1 includes language removed from original Claim 31, and Claim 24 includes language from Claim 33, which as a result is now cancelled. Thus, no new search is required for entry of amendments to Claims 1 and 24. Claims 1 and 24 are distinguishable from Devlin et al. (US Patent No. 5,383,472), since Devlin et al. only provides for radiological images (see Abstract and FIGS. 6A-6B). Radiological images are not comparable to images of optically formed sections, as radiological images are not optically formed sections of tissue. Radiology is the transmittance of high energy x-rays to provide image on film which are shadows through a specimen, and cannot be optically formed sections. Accordingly, Claims 1 and 24, along with their respective dependent Claims 15, 16, and 26 cannot be anticipated by Devlin et al., and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1, 15, 16, 24, and 26 is respectfully requested.

It is believed the Application is in condition for allowance. A petition for a one-month extension of time is enclosed with a check for the required \$925.00 petition fee and additional Claim fee.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: April 7, 2005

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Enclosure: Combined Transmittal and Petition for Extension of Time with Check for
\$925.00.